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## The Voice, October 1973: Volume 20, Issue 2

Dordt College

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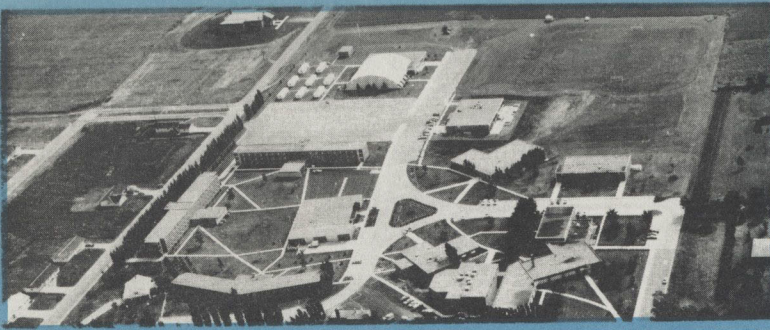
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# DORDT COLLEGE VOICE

Volume XX

Sioux Center, Iowa

October 1973

Number 2

## NEWS FROM ADMISSIONS OFFICE

The admissions office has made some changes in the process of application for admission to Dordt College.

A medical examination is no longer required for admission. A medical history completed by the prospective student, has been substituted for the examination and is included on the application form. The new form is being sent to the schools and students upon request.

Also the prospective student will not be required to have the form for the pastors recommendation brought to their pastor. The college pastor has now made arrangements for this part of the admission procedure.

The office of admissions would also like to invite any prospective students who are seniors to visit the campus. Meals and lodging are provided for two days and an evening. This will give the high school senior a real opportunity to share and experience living on the campus. Classes are open for students to attend and receive a glimpse of "the day in the life of a student at Dordt." Arrangements for this may be made by writing to the Director of Admissions at Dordt College.

The schools in Iowa will be visited in October. Mr. Howard Hall will be calling on schools in Britt, Woden-Crystal Lake, Kanawha, Dike, Wellsburg, Sully, Oskaloosa, and Pella. Notices will be sent to the schools and posted when the visit will be made. Mr. Hall will be happy to talk to any interested students and parents in their homes while in the area.

Schools in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan will be contacted during November with all the remaining areas contacted before December 20.

Every 2nd Friday of the month, at 3:30 p.m., starting Friday, November 9, Dordt will be featured on KSOO-TV (Channel 13), Sioux Falls. The 30 minute program will include an interview with a Dordt staff member and special entertainment by the Dordt College Music Department. For interesting interviews and excellent musical entertainment, be sure to tune in to these programs.

## 1973 FALL FOUNDATION DRIVE STARTS OCTOBER 29

Monday, October 29 marks the kickoff for the 17th annual Dordt College Fall Foundation Day drive. This is the once-per-year, all-out effort to raise the extra support Dordt must have to meet its "above-tuition" operating budget needs for the school year.

### Needed To Meet Dordt's Above Tuition Costs

All schools, especially colleges, need some type of financial support above what tuition brings in. State operated colleges receive only 35% of their needed income from tuition; the rest comes from taxes. On the average, private colleges receive about 70% of their needed income from tuition; the rest must come from gift support.

Dordt has set a tuition rate so that it receives about 80% of its needed income from tuition; but that means that Dordt must still raise well over \$200,000 (the other 20%) through various forms of gift support. The Fall Foundation Day drive is a vitally important and key part of the effort each year to meet Dordt's "above-tuition" costs.

### A Reformation Day Reminder

The Fall Foundation Day drive is held each year when God's people celebrate the great reformation (this year's Reformation Day rally at Dordt will be held October 26). It is at this time each year that we are reminded of the central Biblical principles rediscovered during the great reformation and passed down to us through the faith of our fathers. We are also reminded at this time of the principles of our Reformed, Calvinistic heritage which we so deeply cherish. Dordt was founded upon and remains wholly dedicated to these principles. All instruction at Dordt must arise out of a commitment of the Reformed Faith as expressed in our three Formulae of Unity...the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort (for which Dordt is named).

### Dordt Needs Your Help

Knowing that what happens to the youth of today is crucial for the church of tomorrow, Dordt is striving to provide these covenant young people with a stimulated Christian environment in which all learning and conduct is solidly based on the Word of God. In view of this, Dordt can candidly bring its need for "above-tuition" support to God's people. Dordt needs your help now!

### Goal Set At \$70,000

Dordt needs to raise \$70,000 in this year's drive. Most of the drive activities will take place during the weeks of October 29 and November 5. Watch your church bulletin for details. Close to a thousand contact teams and/or individuals will be going out during this period calling on individual families for the drive. Please pray that the Lord will richly bless the efforts of these people. Other churches will be designating a certain Sunday on which gift envelopes may be placed in the church collection plate.

### Emphasis Is On Participation

Last year, over 10,000 people participated in the drive which indicates that a significant proportion of all those contacted do join in this collective effort of God's people! \$1, \$10, \$50, or \$500, the size of your gift should depend on how God has blessed you financially. The important thing is that you participate!





## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN...

Rev. B. J. Haan

## HOW REFORMED ARE WE?

Part V

Dr. H. Henry Meeter  
and Sphere Sovereignty

Since the whole concept of "sphere sovereignty" has come under questioning by some in the last few years, I thought it might be helpful to listen to one of our trusted and tried leaders on the subject. The late Dr. H. Henry Meeter who taught for many years at Calvin College was considered to be an authority on Calvinism. Many of us sat at his feet and benefitted from his lectures on Calvinism which are preserved for us in his book, The Basic Ideas of Calvinism. The Dordt College statement of purpose reflects quite accurately the thinking of Meeter as this applies to Christian higher education. It might be of interest to some people that the late Henry J. Kuiper, former revered editor of The Banner, had this to say about Meeter's book. H. J. Kuiper wrote:

We would plead with our fathers and mothers to purchase a copy of Dr. Meeter's excellent work for their home library, and to read it together. We would recommend its use to our newly formed Reading Circles. Read each chapter at least twice. Discuss it. After you have gone through the book in this fashion you will be a different person. You will feel that you have received an education. And you will have gained a deep appreciation of the most satisfying of all interpretations of the Christian world and life view. (underlining mine—B. J. Haan)

In the chapter from his book, referred to above, entitled "The Sovereignty of the Spheres" Meeter states the following:

An expression which has become a favorite watchword among Calvinists is, "The sovereignty of the organic groups in society each in its own sphere." By this is meant that the family, scientific organizations, commercial, industrial, agricultural, philanthropic organizations, and whatever other groups naturally develop out of the organic life of human society, as well as churches, do not owe their origin, existence, or principle of

life to the State. They have an inner principle and cultural task all their own, entrusted to them by God. They are authorized directly by God for the pursuance of their task. Upon this sovereignty given them by the Creator the State may not infringe....

Calvinism views Society, not as a loose aggregation of isolated individuals, but as an organic unity, one vast social organism. This organism is composed of a wide variety of distinct though related spheres, which arise out of the complex life of mankind, each having its own task to perform, its own mandate entrusted to it by God. Thus there is the sphere of the family, of science, of art, of technique and invention, of trade and commerce, of industry, of agriculture, of the Church, and to mention no more, the sphere of things which belong to Society as a whole....

It is of importance to note the exact nature of the authority which is exercised by men in these spheres. The authority comes to them in a natural, organic way, not mechanically, as in the case of governmental authority. No parent exercises authority over his child because he was voted into the office of parent. No scientist speaks with authority in his field merely because men have appointed him to that position. Their authority is natural to them in their field..

\* \* \* \* \*

B. J. Bennink on the Kingdom of God

Recently there has been a strange insistence, on the part of a few men, that the Kingdom of God is found only in, and restricted to the hearts of believers. This view is, of course, contrary to Scripture and our Reformed fathers.

What did the late B. J. Bennink have to say on this issue? Mr. Bennink taught for years in our Christian schools. His last position was principal of the Rock Valley Christian School. In a textbook which was published for the National Union of Christian Schools in 1925 entitled, The Church

in the World, Mr. Bennink wrote the following:

The real members of the spiritual body, which we call the Church, consist of those who have been bought with the blood of Christ. These members have been redeemed; they in principle have died to sin; and they have been raised with Christ in newness of life.

Wherever this "new life" becomes apparent, there is the Kingdom of God. The new life of the people of God manifests itself not only in the sphere of the Church but also in spheres of family, state, commerce, industry, science and art. "Whenever one of these spheres comes under the controlling influence of the principle of divine supremacy and glory, and this outwardly reveals itself, there we can truly say that the Kingdom of God has become manifest."

The heart of the Kingdom of God is the rule of God in the heart. But the Kingdom of God is not confined to the heart. To whatever sphere the sway of God's rule extends, there is the Kingdom of God.

HERITAGE COLLECTION  
ESTABLISHED

The desire to gather and preserve materials and records pertaining to the history and development of the Netherlands immigrants to America and their descendants, especially in the region of the Midwest, has been growing for some time among several of the constituents and supporters of Dordt College.

Much of this material stands in great danger of being lost through neglect or destroyed unless the work of gathering and preservation is begun. It is felt that Dordt College is an appropriate and convenient place for the establishment of a center for such gathering.

In this way we may preserve a memorial of the lives, struggles and hopes of our forebears who planted and nourished our Reformed Faith in a strange land.

The proposed collection is intended for the use of those who may desire to study such records and publish the results whether in printed or other form, as well as for other interested individuals.

Dordt College therefore proposes to establish such a collection and welcomes your cooperation in the form of gifts of materials such as documents, published volumes, pamphlets, old newspapers, memorial booklets, private papers, etc. with

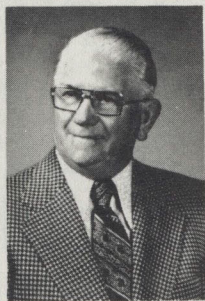


major emphasis on materials dealing directly with the Christian Reformed churches, the Christian schools and other organizations and institutions in which our people have directly involved themselves, especially in their formative stages.

The Board of Trustees of Dordt College has approved the establishment of such a collection. Some material has already been gathered together. Items connected with the early history of Dordt College will also be appreciated.

Please send any available material to Dordt Archives and Dutch Memorial Collection, Dordt College Library, Sioux Center, Iowa, 51250.

## ROZEBOOM & BOERSMA HONORED AT TESTAMONIAL DINNER



Mr. Boersma

Members of the Board of Trustees, of the Voting Members, and of the faculty, together with their wives, were present at a testimonial dinner in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Garrett Rozeboom and Mr. and Mrs. Neal Boersma who have retired. Dr. Rozeboom joined the Dordt staff in 1961. He taught courses in education and psychology, served as placement director of practice teaching and for three years occupied the position of dean of students during this twelve year period. Dr. Rozeboom came to Dordt at a crucial period in its history bringing special talents and services which were of great benefit in the development of the college.

Mr. Neal Boersma came to Dordt in 1959. He served in a part-time role for two years, after which Mr. Boersma became full time business manager. Boersma, with his exceptional business and finance expertise, will long be remembered for his major contribution to the growth and expansion of the college.

The program for the evening included special remarks addressed to the guests of honor. Mr. Nick Van Til, professor of history and philosophy, spoke to Dr. Rozeboom as representative of the faculty. Van Til has taught at Dordt since its beginning in 1955.

Rev. J. B. Hulst and board member,

Everett Fikse, spoke to Mr. Neal Boersma. The president of the Board of Trustees, Dr. A. Boeve, addressed both Dr. Rozeboom and Neal Boersma. Special numbers included songs by nine pre-seminary students and a solo by Mr. Gary Warmink, associate professor of music.

The college president, Rev. B. J. Haan, served as master of ceremonies.

## SUMMER CONSISTORIAL RETREAT

Last August, Dordt College sponsored a consistorial retreat. Dr. P. Y. De Jong and Rev. J. Hellinga were the speakers for the two day retreat. Although the number attending this event was relatively small, the interest was very high. We received the following note from one of the attendees:

When we as office bearers were informed of the plans for having a Summer Consistorial retreat, we were convinced that this would be worth the time and effort on our part to try and attend. We were not disappointed.

The Christian Reformed Church in the 70's: a subject like this intrigues us and most certainly is up to date. The lectures given by two of our capable men gave us plenty of food for thought. The fellowship of office-bearers was stimulating and the facilities at the Dordt campus were very adequate. We urge the committee that made this retreat possible to look ahead and make preparations for another retreat in August of 1974.

We will try to attend and urge many others to come with us

and so be better equipped to serve in the church that we love and where our God has placed us.

Dordt plans to hold another retreat in August of 1974. Details of the coming event will appear in the next issue of the Voice.

## DORDT RECEIVES ESTATE MONIES

Dordt College was remembered in the last will and testament by two who were lovers of Christian higher education and shared their responsibility in such support.

A nice gift was received from the Gertrude Moorlag estate, Rock Valley, Iowa. Dordt also was the recipient of a fine gift from the Dewey Wiersma estate. We express sincere appreciation for these gifts, and pray that the Lord may bless these monies so that Dordt may continue to be effective in its responsibilities as a Christian institution. We are thankful that Dordt College is remembered by Christian men and women when making plans for the final settlement of their estate.

### *In Memory*

Dordt College has received a memorial gift from Mr. Albert Cooper and family in loving memory of their wife, mother and grandmother

Mrs. Albert Cooper  
Kanawha, Iowa

May God continue to bless the sorrowing loved ones with the riches of His grace in Christ Jesus.

### TAPES OF SUMMER CONSISTORIAL RETREAT SPEECHES

Cassette tapes of the recent Consistorial Retreat speeches are now available:

- ☐ Tape #1 "Living As Church in Today's World" by Dr. P.Y. De Jong  
"Church and Kingdom - Is There A Conflict?" by Rev. John Hellinga
- ☐ Tape #2 "Rights and Responsibilities for Every Member" by Dr. P.Y. De Jong
- ☐ Tape #3 "How We Became What We Are" by Rev. John Hellinga
- ☐ Tape #4 "How About Worshipping in New Ways" by Rev. P.Y. De Jong
- ☐ Tape #5 "Preaching the Kingdom Gospel in the 70's" by Rev. John Hellinga

Cost: \$3.00 per tape or \$12.00 for all five. If you would like to order, cut this form out and send it along with your check or money order to: Tapes, Media Center, Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa, 51250. Note: Be sure to include your name and address with your request.





## WITH PRIDE AND HUMILITY

Guest Editorial by Hugh Cook

My assignment this morning, according to the slate of chapel talks for the month, is to give a faculty response to Rev. Haan's convocation theme that a good name is to be desired more than great wealth (Prov. 22:1), and that ultimately the only way of acquiring a good name for oneself, be that personally or collectively as a college, is to do justice to the holy name of the Lord.

My first reaction, in finding a Scripture passage, was to deal with a number of them--Exodus 3, Ps. 8, Ps. 33, Ps. 119, Ps. 148, and so on--to try to say it all about revering the name of the Lord in one short chapel talk. An impossibility of course. So I limited it to Exodus 3, where God dramatically reveals His name, and to Ps. 8, which contains as poetic an expression of the cultural mandate based on the name of the Lord, as we could hope to find. (By the way, if you are looking for something to read for your personal devotions tonight, why don't you stay on this theme and read Psalms 33 and 148).

(Read Exodus 3)

How striking that story of Moses is, and how illustrative of God's special care for his people! How unbelievably planned was the life of Moses, in preparation for his great life task, that of leading his people out of the house of slavery. Just think, 40 years in the court of Pharaoh, learning that sophisticated world of Egyptian learning and culture. What a suave, educated man Moses must have been, thoroughly familiar with Egyptian life and culture. And then 40 years out in the boonies in Midian, learning thoroughly the habits of camels and sheep, developing much-needed callouses on the feet. Talk about cultural shock! From royal court to dusty desert, from a father who was the imperial ruler of that time, to a father-in-law who was the priest of a tribe of nomads in the Sinai peninsula, from jet-black horses to silly looking camels (have you ever seen a camel? To me they're one of God's funnier creatures).

Talk about planned preparation for one's life task, though! Can you see why God got just a little bit angry when Moses started coming out with his excuses? What do you mean you're not the right man? I've invested 80 years in your life; every minute of it has been planned! So don't cop out on me now! Yes, but who shall I say sent me, comes Moses' response, and God answers with His self-revelation: "I am who I am." That is, "Don't you know that I am the faithful one who never changes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the one who created this world in the first place, the one who promised the Messiah when man fell, the one who kept His promise by saving mankind through Noah when mankind became too evil for me to stand it any longer, the one who, when things became too evil again, had to choose my servant Abraham--forget about mankind as a whole; they don't want to listen to me anyway, so I'll call a special people unto myself. And when the famine came, again I was the I am who ensured your survival through Joseph your ancestor. And now it is time for my people to leave, so that I can carry out the history of redemption--remember I am the faithful one--this is my name for all time; by this name I shall be called for generations to come."

We are part of these succeeding generations, for it is still the same God--Creator, Upholder, and Redeemer--who makes possible our academic task here at Dordt College. His faithfulness in maintaining His creation and in redeeming our work done in sinfulness goes forth from age to age. He is "I am who I am," that is His name.

As a matter of fact, in Psalm 8, can't you see how beautifully David combines the glorious name of the Lord with man's mandate to explore the creation and have dominion over it? Of course; of course. Man can have dominion over the earth, because God's faithfulness, I am who I am, that is His name, holds all things together.

Yes, and the study of what makes an electron what it is, and why a novel is not a limberick, and what causes schizophrenia, and the beautiful intricacy of the human body and the rigors to which it can be put, and why it is that Willy Loman touches us deeply when we experience him on the stage, and the origins of human prejudice, or why the snail has the nervous system that it does--all of these too have been set under man's feet for his dominion--because the Lord is I am, and because creation has meaning only in that light. As a result, business is not just business, and a rose is not just a rose, and history is not just history. The Word of God has made them, (Ps. 33), and they must be made subservient to His name.

We faculty are supposed to have reached a certain degree of knowledge, I guess--dominion, if you will. Listen, have you students (I'm sure you faculty have thought of it), but have you students ever thought of what a mixture of pride and humility it is to teach at a Christian college such as Dordt where the name of the Lord is taken seriously? What pride, presumption it must be, to teach at a Christian college, to assume that you can contribute to the body of Christian scholarship--if you're here not just for a job, that

is; if you're here because you believe that only in a community of Christian scholars can the best Christian academic work be done.

And yet, what a feeling of humility we faculty experience in our more sober, reflective moments, when we realize the limited scope of our Christian knowledge, how finitely we understand the depth of God's marvelous creation! As a matter of fact, when we face that mountain of secular thought, it does, at times, seem as vast and imposing as that world of Egyptian culture which Moses was called upon to counter, and the temptation comes easily to shirk our responsibility as Christian scholars, and to stammer with Moses, "Lord, you'd better not expect great things from me," or, "But Lord, I am a man not very smooth with words (or ideas), you'd better send someone else." And there are also days, aren't there colleagues, when you speak from the deepest convictions in your heart, and your words seem to fall on stony ground among your students, that you almost wish that you could miraculously change that yardstick into a writhing serpent for your seemingly immovable students, or to place your hand inside your Ridiculous Days double knit sports coat, and have it come out leprously white, and back again. Oh, for some dramatic proof, at times, for the authority with which you speak, for the name of the Lord, whose servant you are.

But the academic enterprise isn't quite that way, is it? As a matter of fact, I would like to make an appeal to you students, to deal charitably with us, as we ought with you. It's true that we're out there on display every day, vulnerably so, almost like sitting ducks, and it doesn't take much of a cynical student to make us easy prey. We too are human beings, and we have our weaknesses on open display--please try to understand them, even though we faculty ourselves don't deal with each other as charitably as we ought. And pray for us--did you ever think of that? We pray for you, you know. I don't mean that you have to return the favour, but we ought to pray for one another, as Christian community. That's why we pray for you, and ought to treat you also in love.

Enhancing Dordt's good name, yes, as long as we realize that the only name worth having for oneself is one of obedience, one that tries to do justice to the majestic name of God. Therein lies the challenge, for us as faculty, for you as students.

I would like to close in prayer with you in the beautiful closing words of Ps. 33:  
 "Our soul awaits the Lord,  
 He is our help and shield;  
 our hearts rejoice in Him,  
 We trust in His holy name.  
 O Lord, let your love rest on us  
 as our hope has rested in you.

Amen